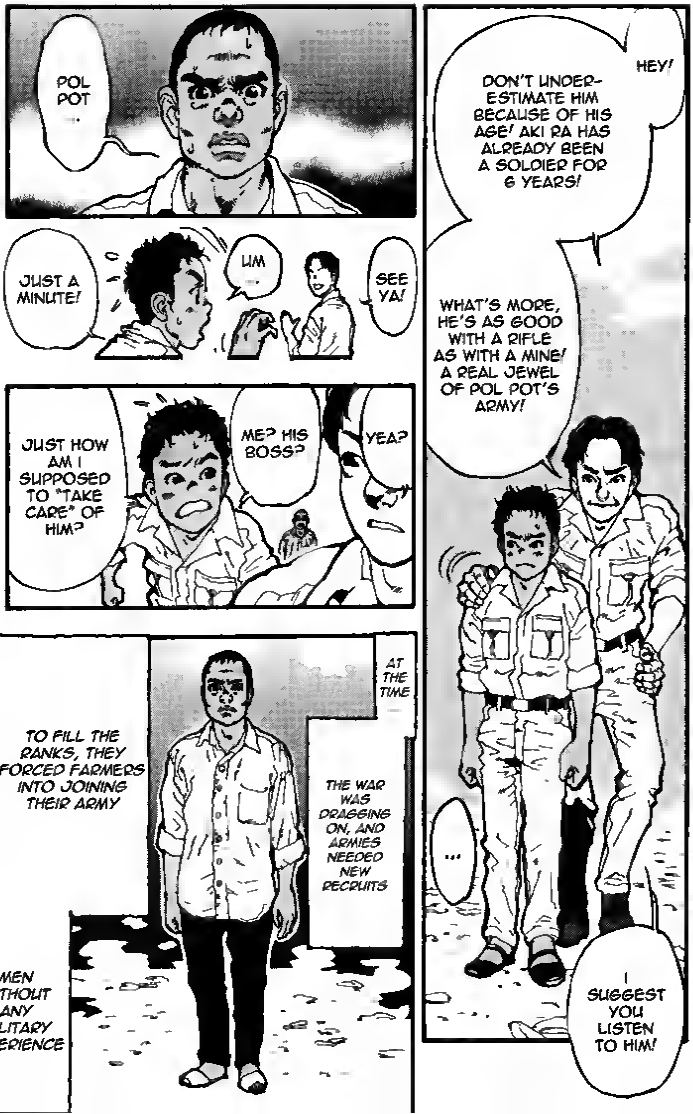
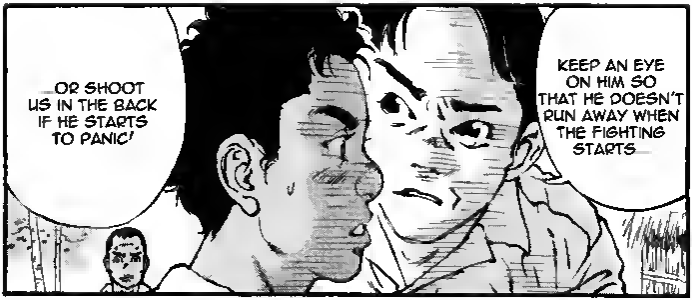
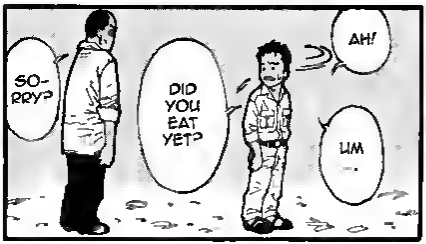
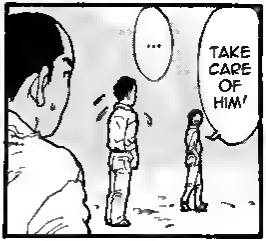
CHAPTER 8: ELDER SUBORDINATE

1984
THIS IS SLAY, A NEW GUY TAKE CARE OF HIM
AKI RA!
HUH?
AKI RA IS 16
BUT
YOU'RE BOTH CAMBODIAN, YOU SHOULD GET ALONG WELL!
FROM NOW ON, AKI RA IS YOUR BOSS. YOU'LL OBEY HIS ORDERS.
SLAY


POL POT...
JUST A MINUTE!
LIM...
SEE YA!
JUST HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO "TAKE CARE" OF HIM?
ME? HIS BOSS?
YEA?
MEN WITHOUT ANY MILITARY EXPERIENCE
TO FILL THE RANKS, THEY FORCED FARMERS INTO JOINING THEIR ARMY
THE WAR WAS DRAGGING ON, AND ARMIES NEEDED NEW RECRUITS
AT THE TIME
DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE HIM BECAUSE OF HIS AGE! AKI RA HAS ALREADY BEEN A SOLDIER FOR 6 YEARS!
HEY!
WHAT'S MORE, HE'S AS GOOD WITH A RIFLE AS WITH A MINE! A REAL JEWEL OF POL POT'S ARMY!
...
I SUGGEST YOU LISTEN TO HIM!


KEEP AN EYE ON HIM SO THAT HE DOESN'T RUN AWAY WHEN THE FIGHTING STARTS—
—OR SHOOT US IN THE BACK IF HE STARTS TO PANIC!


AH!
SO-RRY?
DID YOU EAT YET?
UM...


...
TAKE CARE OF HIM!

BO DOM
STOP!

TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP

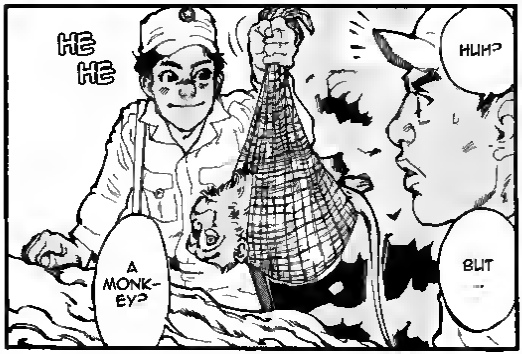
OOPS
A MINE?
AKIRA!
DON'T MOVE!
...
THE GROUND'S COLOR
FRR
GRR
!!
THERE IT IS!
...
WALK DIRECTLY IN MY FOOTSTEPS!
SLAY!
THANKS!
OK. I'LL LEAD THE GROUP!
TAP TAP
UM...
ROF

AH.
WE'RE GONNA SET UP SOME TRAPS!
SLAY!
SET UP THE CAMP!
WATCH THE CABLE'S HEIGHT
LIKE THIS
TCHHC
LEAVES FOR THE MEAL
WHAT'S THIS?
7TH DAY OF CAMP
MH?
YOU CAN REALLY DO IT ALL!
AKI RA— YOU
BUP
BUP
BUP

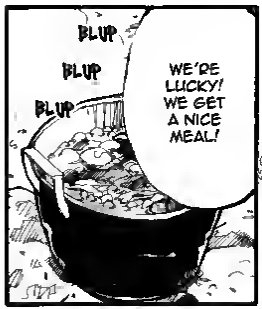
WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO EAT MUSH
FOOD SUPPLIES AREN'T COMING
BLOOOOY
!!
BRR BRR BRR
CRR
THE ENE-MY?
SOMETHING TRIGGERED THE TRAP!

!
WHAT'S THIS...

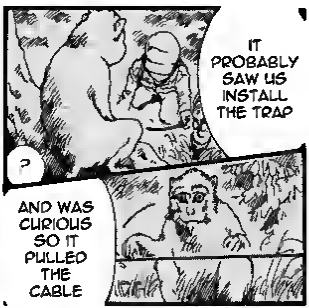
ZAN


HE HE
HUH?
A MONK-EY?
BUT...

HEY!
SLAY!
I'M CO-MING

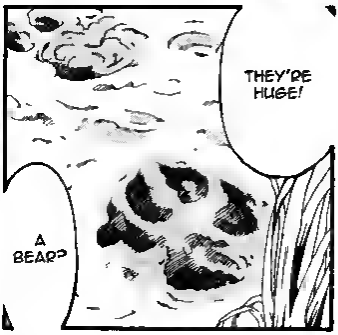

BLUP
BLUP
BLUP
WE'RE LUCKY! WE GET A NICE MEAL!

AH!
OH
SO IT WASN'T JUST ENEMY

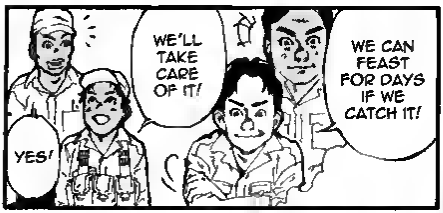

IT PROBABLY SAW US INSTALL THE TRAP
?
AND WAS CURIOUS SO IT PULLED THE CABLE
OH!

A FEW DAYS LATER
AK! RA!
LOOK!
MH?

IT MUST BE...
ITS USUAL PATH


THEY'RE HUGE!
A BEAR?

HE HE


WE'LL TAKE CARE OF IT!
WE CAN FEAST FOR DAYS IF WE CATCH IT!
YES!

EVERYTHING'S READY HERE!
BLUP BLUP
FIRST THE MONKEY NOW THE BEAR!

DON'T LET IT ESCAPE!
NO WORRIES!

IT REALLY CAME!
WOAH!
WE'RE GONNA GET IT.
IT'S GOING STRAIGHT FOR THE TRAP.
BODOM
BODOM
BODOM
GO FOR-WARD!
COME ON.
BODOM

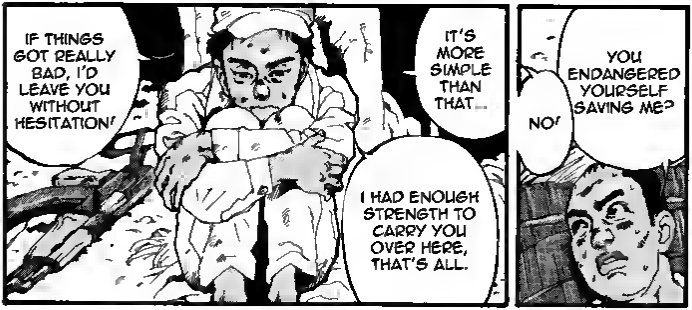
FI
OUP
DAH
AH
WOAAAH...
SO SMART
CRAP
I MIS-SED
SHOU-LON'T HAVE BEEN ADMIRING IT
...
BANG!
TADAP
I ...
I'M CO-MING
LET'S GO
WELL SLAY?
BANG BANG

HAA
HAA
HAA
SLAY?
SLAY, YOU'RE LATE!
HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA SLEEP?
CHATTER
MALA-RIA!
Fluu
uu
!

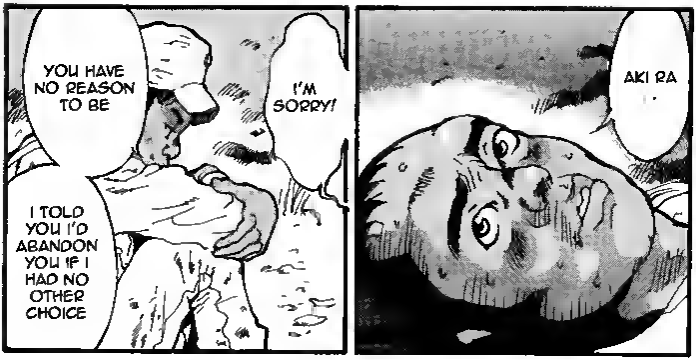
BOOM
START THE COUNTER ATTACK!
A BOMBING!
PLAC PLAC

AH
MH?
TAP TAP
TAP
TAP
AKI RA?
UM
WHAT
WHERE ARE THE OTHERS?
FIVE MEN DIED...
IN THE AMBUSH
THE REST FELL BACK ALREADY

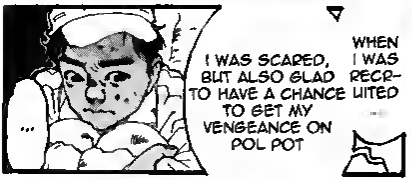
...
JUST FOR ME?
STAYED
YOU.


IF THINGS GOT REALLY BAD, I'D LEAVE YOU WITHOUT HESITATION!
IT'S MORE SIMPLE THAN THAT...
I HAD ENOUGH STRENGTH TO CARRY YOU OVER HERE, THAT'S ALL.
NO!
YOU ENDANGERED YOURSELF SAVING ME?

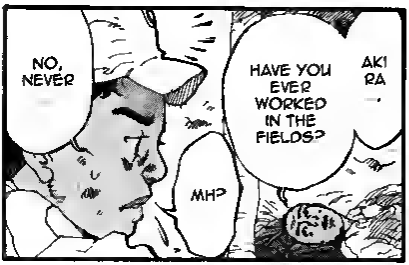
I'M BEGGING YOU, AKIRA...
I ALREADY ABANDONNED MY FRIENDS MORE THAN ONCE!
DON'T LEAVE ME ALONE!
AKIRA!
I ALREADY DID...
HELP!
I'M BURNING!
I'M BURNING!


YOU HAVE NO REASON TO BE
I'M SORRY!
I TOLD YOU I'D ABANDON YOU IF I HAD NO OTHER CHOICE
AKI RA

I HATED YOU.
HAA...
HAA...
HAA...
TO BE HONEST
I'M AN IDIOT
NO, I MEANT SOMETHING ELSE


...
I WAS SCARED, BUT ALSO GLAD TO HAVE A CHANCE TO GET MY VENGEANCE ON POL POT
WHEN I WAS RECRUITED

I HATED YOU FOR HAVING BEEN ONE OF POL POT'S SOLDIERS
THEY KILLED MY PARENTS AND UNCLES


NO, NEVER
HAVE YOU EVER WORKED IN THE FIELDS?
AKI RA
MH?

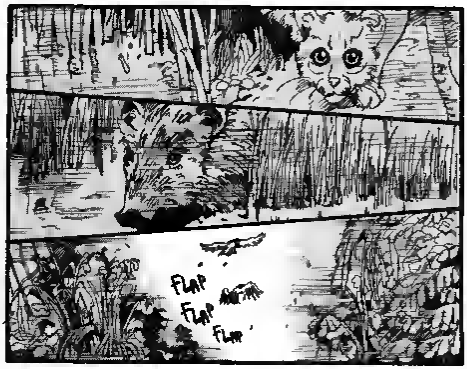
HE HE
THE-RE!
I FINAL-LY FOUND
SOMETHING I'M BETTER AT THAN YOU!
ONE DAY
WHEN THERE WILL BE NO ARMIES
AND THE WAR IS OVER...
I WILL TREAT YOU TO RICE I'VE GROWN MYSELF!
REST!
I'LL GO HAVE A LOOK AROUND!
"WHEN THERE WILL BE NO ARMIES
AND THE WAR WILL BE OVER
IS IT POSSIBLE ?
AND YOU STAY
WILL YOU STAY ALIVE UNTIL THEN?
RICE GROWN FOR ME
OH!

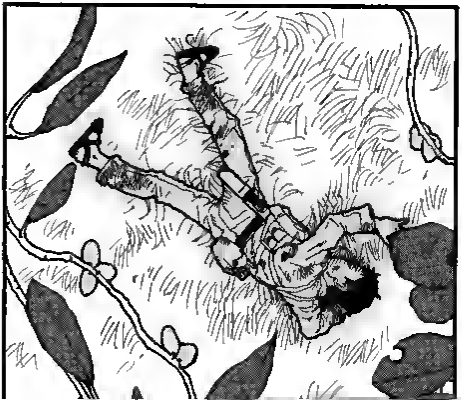
POL POT'S SOLDIERS!
FIVE MEN...
IT'S ALRIGHT... THEY HAVEN'T SEEN ME YET...
I HAVE TO USE THIS!
I MUST KILL THEM ALL AT ONCE!
NO!
BANG
!!

I WAS SHOT AT!
VLAF
!
IF THE BUL-LET
HAD HIT THE ROCKET IT WOULD HAVE EXPLODED!
D'OÙ EST PARTI LE COUP ?!
AUCUNE IDÉE ..
AH!
AM I STILL
BEING AIMED AT?
FHH ..
THEY SAW ME!
WAA
AAH!
TA-DAN

VLAF VLAF VLAF VLAF VLAF

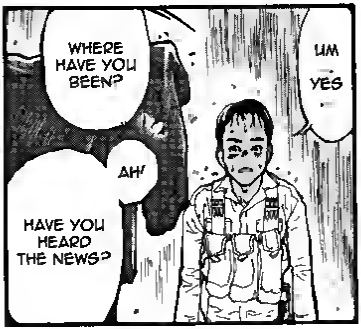
HAA
HAA
HAA


FLAP
FLAP
FLAP



SAH
SAH
GLLH

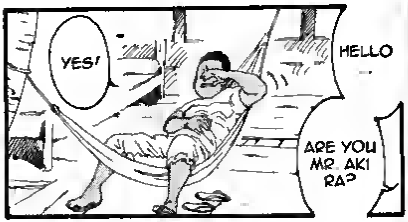
AH
DAH
...
UM
...
SLAY
BROUGHT YOU SOME WATER
POL POT'S SOLDIERS ARE GONE
?!
0.


WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
UM YES
AH!
HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

!
AKI RA! YOU'RE ALIVE!

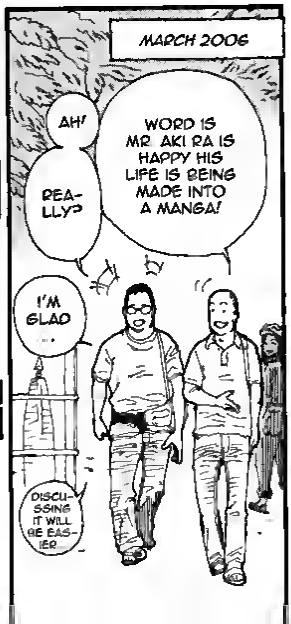
PSHHHH
HUH?
WHICH MEANS IT'S THE END OF THE WAR!
WORD IS THE VIETNAMESE ARMY IS LEAVING CAMBODIA!

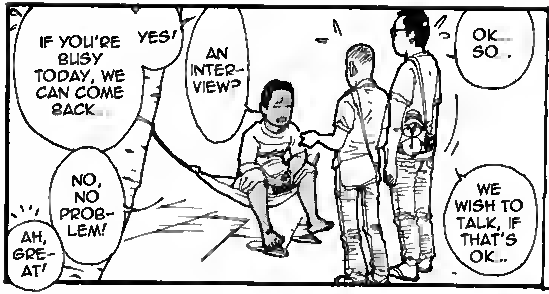
WELCOME TO
The LAND MINES MUSEUM
アキラの地雷博物館
THE SIGN THAT GAVE ME THE OCCASION TO MAKE THIS MANGA
IS LONG GONE NOW

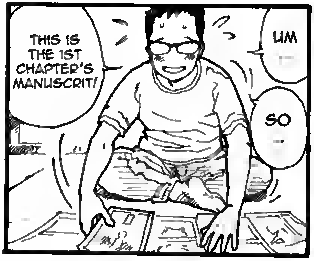

YES!
HELLO ...
ARE YOU MR AKI RA?

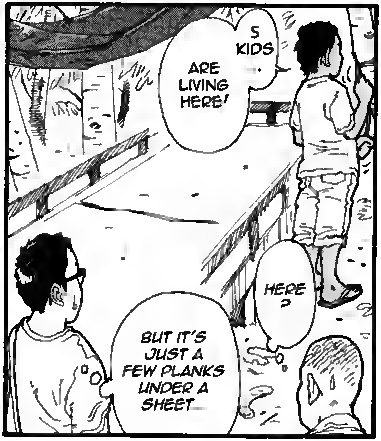
WERE YOU NOT WARNED ABOUT OUR VISIT?
YE YE ...
UM. WE'RE THE MANGAKA AND HIS PUBLISHER FROM JAPAN.
YOU ARE ?

AWKWARD ...
WEIRD SITUATION ...

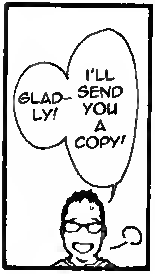

MARCH 2006
AH!
REA-LLY?
WORD IS MR AKI RA IS HAPPY HIS LIFE IS BEING MADE INTO A MANGA!
I'M GLAD ...
DISCU-SSING IT WILL BE EAS-IER


IF YOU'RE BUSY TODAY, WE CAN COME BACK...
YES!
AN INTER-VIEW?
OK... SO.
NO, NO PROB-LEM!
AH, GRE-AT!
WE WISH TO TALK, IF THAT'S OK...


THIS IS THE 1ST CHAPTER'S MANUSCRIT!
UM...
SO...


5 KIDS ARE LIVING HERE!
HERE?
BUT IT'S JUST A FEW PLANKS UNDER A SHEET...

WITH THE AK-47?
THIS IS ME?
THAT'S RIGHT


GLAD-LY!
I'LL SEND YOU A COPY!

I CAN'T WAIT TO READ IT!

THIS COME OUT?
WHEN WILL...
THE FIRST CHAPTER COMES OUT IN MAY!

I ALSO FOUND IT PARTICULARLY DISTRESSING THAT THERE WERE GIRLS AMONGST CHILD SOLDIERS
THAT'S HOW NANA'S CHARACTER WAS BORN
MR. AKI RA ANSWERED EVERYTHING I ASKED VERY POLITELY
HOW DID YOU MAKE ELECTRICITY
WITH CAR BATTERIES!
I THEN ASKED HIM MANY QUESTIONS ABOUT HIS CHILDHOOD
SO THAT I COULD GET A BETTER IDEA, AND DRAW IT CLOSE TO REALITY
WHAT DID YOU EAT IN THE JUNGLE?
EVERYTHING!
GRASS FOR WATER, ETC
NO WAY!
MR. AKI RA IS IN THE HOSPITAL, AND IN JAPAN NO LESS!
DID YOU HEAR?
AND A FEW MONTHS LATER
WITH ALOT OF GESTURING, HE TOLD ME ABOUT MORE EXPERIENCES
AND SO MY VISIT QUICKLY TURNED INTO AN INTERVIEW
HOW MANY SOLDIERS IN THE VILLAGE?
20 MAX!
WITH 100 MEN SURROUNDING US!
RUN!!
I RUSHED TO THE HOSPITAL
AH!
WE'VE MET BEFORE, RIGHT?
TOOTH ACHE FIXED UP!
HE'S OK
AKI RA WAS ALREADY FINE, AND WELCOMED ME WITH HIS WIFE
I ALSO LEARNED HOW AKI RA MET HIS WIFE
I TOLD THAT STORY IN THE LAST CHAPTER OF THIS MANGA

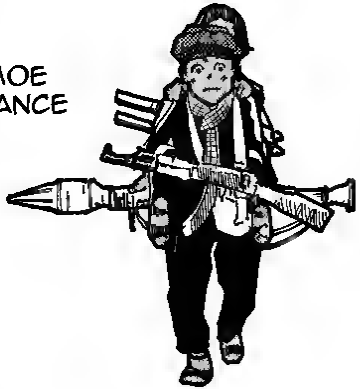
LA STRUCTURE EST EN BÉTON
LES LÉGENDES AUTREFOIS ÉCRITES À LA MAIN, SONT DÉSORMAIS DACTYLOGRAPHIÉES SUR DE JOLIES PLAQUES
TODAY
ON THE SAME LOT
IS A HOME FOR CHILDREN VICTIMS OF MINES
SINCE THE BUILDING AKIRA HAD BUILT HIMSELF WAS SHUT DOWN, THE MINE MUSEUM WAS MOVED
TO GET TO THE NEW MUSEUM
JUST GET IN A TAXI IN SIEM REAP, AND ASK TO GO TO THE MINE MUSEUM!
WITH A LITTLE LUCK, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO MEET MR. AKIRA HIMSELF!

MITSURIN SHOONEN

AND SO VOLUME 1 IS OVER!
I WILL BE BUSY FROM NOW ON,
AND WON'T BE ABLE TO WORK
ON VOLUME 2! SORRY GUYS!
I HOPE ANOTHER SCANLATION
GROUP PICKS IT UP, AS IT IS
ONLY ONE VOLUME AND NOT
MUCH WORK AT ALL!

IF YOU HAPPEN TO BE A
SCANLATOR INTERESTED IN
WORKING ON THIS, I COULD
BE CONVINCED TO TRANSLATE
THE REST OF IT FOR YOU, IF
YOU WOULD CLEAN AND TYPESET
IT YOURSELF! TO CONTACTME, COME
ON IRCHIGHWAY IN #E-A AND PM MOE!

CREDITS:
TRANSLATION/EDITING: MOE
BIG THANKS TO: TYRESONANCE



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